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Hearing Is Set On Agee Passport

Associated Press

A federal judge yesterday set Jan. 18 for oral arguments in former CIA officer Philip Agee's attempt to regain his U.S. passport, which was revoked.

U.S. District Court Judge Gerhard A. Gesell scheduled the hearing for Agee, who has written books and articles uncovering overseas operations and personnel of the CIA since he quit the intelligence agency several years ago.

Agee was stripped of his passport Dec. 23 by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance after Agee said he would involve himself in the Iranian hostage crisis.

Agee, who currently lives in Hamburg, West Germany, argues that the action violated his constitutional rights to free speech and travel. The State Department contends that U.S. national security and foreign policy could be endangered if Agee were free to continue to travel at will.